



Moving forward together

**Metro Transit Department
Mobility Division**

Market Innovation Section
201 S. Jackson Street
KSC-TR-0411
Seattle, WA 98104-3856

May 21, 2020

Andrew Singelakis
Transportation Director
City of Bellevue
450 - 110th Avenue NE
Bellevue, WA 98004

Dear Mr. Singelakis,

On behalf of King County Metro Transit, I am writing to express our support for the City of Bellevue's application to the Washington Department of Transportation's First-Last Mile to Transit grant program competition for an *On-Demand Connection to Fixed-Route Transit Service*, called *CrossConnect*.

This project represents a unique partnership between the City of Bellevue and King County Metro that will implement a new service model building on the lessons learned from the past First-Last Mile to transit pilot in Eastgate (Ride2). The project would be implemented for the Crossroads and Lake Hills residential neighborhoods, providing an on-demand connection to the Rapid Ride B-Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service and multiple local routes. The service area proposed represents an area of unmet transit need identified by King County, which is also compounded by recent effects of COVID-related service reductions.

The project also represents an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of using both dedicated and non-dedicated vehicles to meet a first-last mile to transit need, proving transit agencies with a new cost-effective means of delivering safe, efficient and equitable transportation for underserved areas.

The project will help eliminate barriers in getting to jobs, education, and medical services by improving access to transit service for Bellevue's residents and business community, enhancing transit access to both regional and local centers throughout King County and the larger region and decreasing congestion on our region's arterials and highways. It would provide greater mobility for travelers struggling to connect to transit because they do not have access to a car, prefer not to drive, encounter overcrowded park and rides and/or face challenges walking or biking.

King County is supportive of Bellevue's First-Last Mile to Transit grant application and looks forward to an upcoming partnership.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Carol Cooper

Managing Director, Market Innovation
King County Metro Transit

CC: Chris Long, City of Bellevue Interim Assistant Director, Traffic Management
Mia Waters, City of Bellevue Grants Program Manager